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BURT, Jr., JESSE C.
(1921-1976)
PAPERS
1920-1981

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INTRODUCTION

This finding aid focuses on the papers of Jesse C. Burt, Jr., historian, author, and free lance writer, born in Nashville, Tennessee. Spanning the years 1920-1981, although largely concentrated in the period 1951-1972, the papers mainly consist of articles written by Dr. Burt for sectarian and secular periodicals. Also contained within the collection are memorabilia (photographs, clippings, school records, certificates, book reviews, obituaries, etc.) encompassing Dr. Burt's education and career as well as a scrapbook of memorabilia of Dr. Burt's mother, Mrs. Agnes Seals Burt, who was a co-owner of The Knit Center in Nashville.

The materials in the collection measured 5.0 cubic feet while in the original boxes, but was reduced to 4.5 cubic feet by the removal of extraneous materials. There are no restrictions on the materials. Single photocopies of published writings in the Jesse C. Burt, Jr. Papers may be made for individual or scholarly research. The papers were donated by Dr. Burt's widow, Mrs. Eleanor J. Burt.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Jesse C. Burt, Jr. Papers, containing approximately 600 items, span the years 1920-1981, although largely concentrated in the period 1951-1972. The collection is composed of certificates, clippings, correspondence, photographs, school records, writings, and several miscellaneous items.

The bulk of the collection consists of published writings by Dr. Burt for various sectarian magazines (e.g., *Christian Action*, *Workers With Youth*, *Church and Home*, *The Lookout*, et al) as well as secular magazines (e. g., *Happy Hours*, *Nashville Tennessean Magazine*, *Tennessee Teacher*, *Mercury*, et al). In addition to these free lance articles, the collection contains several articles and book reviews by Dr. Burt which were published in historical journals such as the *Tennessee Historical Quarterly*. Lastly, Dr. Burt articles "The Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, 1854-1872," and "N.C. & St. L. Ry. From Railroad War to World War I, 1873-1916," were based on his doctoral dissertation, "History of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis railway, 1873-1916," at Vanderbilt University in 1950.

Following the alphabetical arrangement of writings in the container list, the scrapbooks of memorabilia covering the education and career of Dr. Burt will be found. These have been arranged in chronological order.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Jesse Clifton Burt, Jr.

- 1921 August 29, born in Nashville, Tennessee, the son of Jesse Clifton and Agnes Louise Seals Burt.
- 1927-1934 Attended elementary schools in Detroit, Michigan, and Nashville, Tennessee.
- 1934-1939 Attended and graduated from Hume-Fogg High School, Nashville, Tennessee.
- 1942 Bachelor of Science degree from George Peabody College for Teachers, Nashville, Tennessee.
- 1943 Master of Arts degree from George Peabody College for Teachers.
- 1943-1945 Instructor in history at Presbyterian College, Clinton, South Carolina.
- 1945-1947 Assistant professor of history, Florence State College, Florence, Alabama.
- 1946 September 27, Married Eleanor Bales Jones.
- 1949-1950 Teaching fellow at Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee
- 1950 Doctor of Philosophy degree in history from Vanderbilt University.
- 1950-1953 Dean at Lambuth College, Jackson, Tennessee.
- 1956- Extension division instructor in history, University of Tennessee, Nashville Center.
- 1961 Master of Education degree from Harvard University.
- 1962 Radio broadcaster in own series, Nashville, Tennessee.
- _____ Merchandiser for the Page Knit Center, Nashville, Tennessee.
- 1976 November 20, died in Nashville, Tennessee, and interred in Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

Organizations

Filson Club
East Tennessee Historical Society
Tennessee Historical Society
West Tennessee Historical Society

Awards and Honors

Danforth Award for youth writings, 1954
Award of Merit from the American Association for State and Local History, 1973

Writings

Your Vocational Adventure, 1959
Nashville: Its Life and Times, 1959 (co-author)
So You Want to Be In Music, 1970 (co-author)
Indians of the Southwest—Then and Now, 1973

CONTAINER LIST

Microfilm Reel #1

Box 1

Writings—Jesse C. Burt

1. Research Notes
2. Speeches/Addresses—"The Legacy of Sam Davis of Tennessee"
3. Speeches/Addresses—"Update" (WSM radio lecture)
4. "The Adventures of Benjamin Franklin"
5. "The Agony of the Green Drop"
6. "Altar Anxiety"
7. "Ambition and Blood Pressure"
8. "Anna Russell Cole"
9. "The Arcade"
10. "Are Our Teen-Agers Stereotypes?"
11. "The Act of Friendship"
12. "The Art of the Genial Taskmaster"
13. "As You Prepare to Teach"
14. "A Baby for the General"
15. "The Bachelor and the Boys"
16. "Back to Civilization"
17. "Bar Harbor Rises Again"
18. "Bases of A Lasting Marriage"
19. "The Battle of the Bergs"
20. "Big Game Hunting More Than a sport"
21. "Biography of a Breakdown"
22. "Birthday Celebration"
23. "Bless Her Heart"
24. "Busier at 80"
25. "Camp Crossville"
26. "Can I Measure Goodness?"
27. "Can TV Come of Age"
28. "The Captive City"
29. "The Challenge of School Cheating"
30. "Chester Burton Atkins: An Intimate Look at Mr. Guitar"
31. "A Christian Look at Our Time"
32. "A Christian Standard of Service"
33. "The Christian's Vocation"
34. "Christians in the Music World"
35. "The Christmas Mutiny"
36. "Chronicles of the Dixie Line," Vol. I
37. "Chronicles of the Dixie Line," Vol. II

38. "Cigarettes and Cancer"
39. "Classic Sessions Can Come Alive"
40. "College Humor"
41. "College Textbook Treatment of American History"
42. "Color Your Summer Great"
43. "Command and Teach These Things"
44. "Committees That Zip"
45. "A Complete Separation of Church and State"
46. "The Considerate Teacher"
47. "Conversation in the Family"
48. "Crime and the Citizen"

Box 2

Writings—Jesse C. Burt

1. "Dad and the Church"
2. "Dare We Talk Politics at Home?"
3. "Date With the FBI"
4. "A Day at Vizcaya"
5. "Dean Marvin E. Eagle"
6. "Dear Mom and Dad: I'm Leaving"
7. "Depression Brightness"
8. "Desert in the Appalachians"
9. "Destination Moon"
10. "Destiny At Duck River"
11. "Dial M for Motivation"
12. "Do Decisions Give You Trouble"
13. "Do You Dig Classical Music"
14. "The Doctor Cartel"
15. "Do You Snore"
16. "The Drive to Get Ahead"
17. "The Duties of Citizenship"
18. "East Tennessee, Lincoln, and Sherman"
19. "Editor Eastman Writes James K. Polk"

Microfilm Reel #2

20. "Efforts for An Army Camp At Tullahoma, 1916-1917"
21. "Elbridge Gerry Eastman"
22. "Elevators Have a Mind of Their Own"
23. "Emerson as Mystic"
24. "Escape from Teaching"
25. "Ever Have Sunday Morning Sag?"
26. "Exile and Restoration: Jeremiah to Malachi"

Box 3

Writings—Jesse C. Burt

1. "A Fabulous Georgia Garden"
2. "Fabulous Rockefeller Center"
3. "Fads and You"
4. "The Father Ryan Story"
5. "Fightin' with Little Joe"
6. "Fighting With 'Little Joe' Wheeler"
7. "Finding Resources for Later Years"
8. "For Tired Teeners"
9. "For Young Drivers Especially"
10. "Four Decades of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railway, 1873-1916"
11. "Fraternity or No?"
12. "Free Loader on the Highway"
13. "Free-Wheeling Teenagers"
14. "Friend of Labor"
15. "From Apple Pie to Affidavit"
16. "Gayest Day of the Nineties"
17. "General Jackson Meets the Bell Witch"
18. "George Beverly Shea"
19. "George Hamilton IV"
20. "Georgia's Gracious Gardens"
21. "Get Out of Your Shell"
22. "Ghost Town Lives Once Again"
23. "The Glory Raider"
24. "God Speaks Through the Prophets"
25. "God's Work and Mine"
26. "Good Things Have to Be Waited for"
27. "Good Will versus Prejudices"
28. "Grades: How Important Are They?"
29. "Grant's Retreat"
30. "The Great Chicken Fight"
31. "The Great Nashville Train Disaster"
32. "The Hardest Battle Was My Shoestrings"
33. "Harry's \$10,000 Squirrel Cage"
34. "Harvey Watterson Discharges a Nashville Editor"
35. "Has Anyone Seen Dad?"
36. "Hatteras Holiday"
37. "Hatteras—Our Seashore Park"
38. "He Lost Half a Tank of Gas"
39. "Help for 'Copy Cat, Copy Cat'"
40. "Help for the Stigmatized"

41. "History of the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis Railway, 1873-1916"
42. "Hit Songs and You"
43. "How Corrupt Are Politics?"
44. "How May I Help, Preacher?"
45. "How Much Money Do I Need?"
46. "How Personal Is My Religion"
47. "How to Avoid Backache"
48. "How to Choose a College and Get In"
49. "How to Complain Successfully"
50. "How to Concentrate"
51. "How to Cope With School Cheating"
52. "How to Discuss Politics Without Seeing Red"
53. "How to Invest Your Leisure Time"
54. "How to Win the Respect You Want"
55. "Hurricane Hunter"

Box 4

Writings—Jesse C. Burt

1. "I Lost My Eyes"
2. "Iceberg Water for California?"
3. "An Idea of Southern Nationalism"
4. "Ideas Ride A City Bus"
5. "I'm Going to Tell My Bible Class That Juvenile Delinquency Is Not Inevitable"
6. "In 1955 There'll Be Plenty of Membership Participation"
7. "In Teaching Adults—Put Over Your Subject"
8. "Intelligent Citizenship"
9. "Is Genius Ever Enough?"
10. "Is It Just a Job?"
11. "Is There A Case for Rock?"
12. "Ivory Tower Poems"
13. "James D. Porter: West Tennessean and Railroad President"
14. "James Robertson: 190 Christmases Ago!"
15. "John D.—The Music Man"
16. "Junior Highs"
17. "Labor's Holiday"
18. "Largest Objects Afloat"
19. "Let's Go to Marineland"
20. "Let's Perceive the Average Teen, Too"
21. "Let's Talk About Letters"
22. "Letter to the Nashville *Tennessean*"
23. "Living the Disciplined Life"
24. "The Lonely Years"
25. "A Lull in the Evening"—Poems

26. "Lutheran Leader in Nashville"
27. "The Major Found the Plans"
28. "Make Your Committee Click"
29. "Making the Most of Class Discussion"
30. "Man Without a Watch"
31. "Marriage in Modern America"
32. "Maryland's Noble Bridge"
33. "The Meaning of Pachuco"
34. "The Mind You Take With You"
35. "Missing: 300,000 Teen-Agers"
36. "Mr. Guitar"
37. "Mr. Lincoln's Lady"
38. "Mr. Photography"
39. "The More You Know About Nashville, The More You Love It..."
40. "Morton's Gap, Kentucky"
41. "Movin' On"
42. "Moving?"
43. "Music"
44. "Music for Pre-Teens"
45. "Music! Music! Music!"
46. "M Y F Counselor's Notes—For Use With Program Quarterly"

Box 5

Writings—Jesse C. Burt

1. "N. C. & St. L. Ry. From Railroad War to World War I, 1873-1916"
2. "The Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad, 1854-1872"
3. "Nashville 1900"
4. "Nashville's Shrines"
5. "Nashville's Conglomerate"
6. "Nat Winston: From Banjo to Schizos"
7. "National Impact of Tennessee's Sons and Daughters"
8. "The Navy's Global Voice"
9. "A New Approach to Alcoholism"
10. "New Battle of the Beaches"
11. "New World Unfolding"
12. "Night of Terror"
13. "A Note on 'History With Indians'"
14. "On Certain Symptoms of Faulty Education"
15. "One Half of One Life"
16. "Our Beaches Are in Trouble"
17. "Our Dusty World"
18. "Our Protestant Heritage"

19. "Parents Can Be Too good"
20. "Person to Person"
21. "Personal Locomotive"
22. "Personality Clinic"
23. "The Pittsburgh Story"

Microfilm Reel #3

24. "Portrait of a Leader"
25. "P. O. W.'s in the Tennessee Hills"
26. "A Preliminary Bibliography of Dr. Susan B. Riley"
27. "The Price of the Trip"
28. "A Rare First Edition"
29. "Rediscovering the Light Touch"
30. "Reelfoot Lake—Child of Violence"
31. "Report to Parents"
32. "The Return of Music to the Home"
33. Reviews—book: *Appalachia in the Sixties...*
34. Reviews—book: *Benjamin Franklin...*
35. Reviews—book: *A Buried Land*
36. Reviews—book: *The Desolate South*
37. Reviews—book: *Doomed Road of Empire: The Spanish Trail of Conquest*
38. Reviews—book: *The Edge of Glory: A Biography of General William S. Rosecrans, U.S.A.*
39. Reviews—book: *Education in Violence: The Life of George H. Thomas...*
40. Reviews—book: *The Everlasting South: The South Since 1865; The Man Bilbo*
41. Reviews—book: *First Lady of the Seeing Eye*
42. Reviews—book: *Frederick Jackson Turner: Historian, Scholar, Teacher*
43. Reviews—book: *General Leonidas Polk, C.S.A., The Fighting Bishop*
44. Reviews—book: *Ghost Railroads of Tennessee*
45. Reviews—book: *Growing Metropolis: Aspects of Development in Nashville*
46. Reviews—book: *H. G. Wells and Rebecca West*
47. Reviews—book: *Halleck: Lincoln's Chief of Staff*
48. Reviews—book: *Henry Watkins Allen of Louisiana*
49. Reviews—book: *History of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad*
50. Reviews—book: *A History of the Tennessee Baptist Convention*
51. Reviews—book: *The Incredible Pierpont Morgan*
52. Reviews—book: *Jews In the South*
53. Reviews—book: *John Randolph of Roanoke*
54. Reviews—book: *The Land I Live*
55. Reviews—book: *The Literary Correspondence of Donald Davidson and Allen Tate*
56. Reviews—book: *Merriwether Lewis*
57. Reviews—book: *Messages of the Governors of Tennessee*

58. Reviews—book: *O. E.: Historian Without an Armchair; The Chattanooga Country, 1540-1962*
59. Reviews—book: *Pitcairín's Island*

Box 6

Writings—Jesse C. Burt

1. Reviews—book: *Plantation, Town, and Country: Essays on the Local History of American Slave Society*
2. Reviews—book: *Political Reconstruction in Tennessee*
3. Reviews—book: *The Private Journal of Georgiana Gholson Walker, 1862-1865*
4. Reviews—book: *Retreat from Rostov*
5. Reviews—book: *Richard Nixon*
6. Reviews—book: *The Robert E. Lee Reader*
7. Reviews—book: *Send for a Doctor*
8. Reviews—book: *Shiloh: Bloody April*
9. Reviews—book: *The Slender Reed*
10. Reviews—book: *Southern Indians in the American Revolution*
11. Reviews—book: *A Short History of Technology*
12. Reviews—book: *Steel Trails to Santa Fe*
13. Reviews—book: *Tennessee Tales*
14. Reviews—book: *Textbooks and the American Indian*
15. Reviews—book: *Wages, Earnings and Employment N.C. & St. L. Railway, 1866-1896*
16. Reviews—record albums: "An Album in the Basic Tradition of Country Music"
(Geo. Hamilton IV)
17. Reviews—record albums: "Archie and Lorene Tell it Like It Is"
(Archie Campbell and Lorene Mann)
18. Reviews—record albums: "Blue Moon of Kentucky" (Porter Wagoner)
19. Reviews—record albums: "Connie Smith—'Dream Painter'"
20. Reviews—record albums: "Dear Bev" (Geo. Beverly Shea)
21. Reviews—record albums: "Ever Gentle on the Ear..." (Dottie West)
22. Reviews—record albums: "A Formidable Maker of Hit Recordings..." (George Jones)
23. Reviews—record albums: "George Beverly Shea 'Silent Night'"
24. Reviews—record albums: "Hank Snow Casts the Spell of the Yukon..."
25. Reviews—record albums: "An Important Singer of Our Times" (Connie Smith)
26. Reviews—record albums: "Lester Flatt—Country Boy"
27. Reviews—record albums: "A New Approach to Country Music" (Rick Powell)
28. Reviews—record albums: "Norma Jean At Her Best"
29. Reviews—record albums: "A Noted Historian of the South Writes on Noted Musicians of the South" (Floyd Cramer, et al)
30. Reviews—record albums: "Notes From a Jim Ed Brown Recording Session..."

31. Reviews—record albums: “Powerhouse Samples of Carter Family Songs”
32. Reviews—record albums: “Rewarding Listening” (Jerry Reed, et al)
33. Reviews—record albums: “The Real Kenny Price”
34. Reviews—record albums: “There’s Just One Chet Atkins”
35. Reviews—record albums: “Wendy’s Way With Hit Country Songs” (Wendy Dawn)
36. Reviews—record albums: Bibliography
37. “The Riddle of the Stone”
38. “Riding Into a Hurricane”
39. “Rules for Balanced Living”
40. “Run-Away Marriage: Teen-Age Tragedy”
41. “Rusty Did Rate”
42. “Sad Song of a Foot Slogger”
43. “Saving Your Child from Accidents”
44. “The Savor of Old-Time Southern Railroading”
45. “Scene About Town”
46. “School Days and Christian Ways”
47. “School Grades: How Important Are They?”
48. “School Is Your Life”
49. “Science and Man’s Hope”
50. “Selective from the Centennial History”
51. “Sex and Teen-Age Marriages”
52. “Sherman, Railroad General”
53. “Sherman’s Logistics and Andrew Johnson”
54. “Shiloh Veteran”

Box 7

Writings—Jesse C. Burt

1. “Silence in the Family”
2. “Singular Southerners”
3. “Slants on the Secular”
4. “So You’d Like to Be a Pop Musician”
5. “So You’d Like to Be a Pop Songwriter”
6. “So You’re College Shopping”
7. “Socrates May Have Been Right”
8. “Some of You Work Too Hard”
9. “Something to Think About”
10. “Soothing Silence”
11. “Soundings in Music”
12. “The Stature of the Prophet Micah”
13. “Steam Engine on Legs”
14. “Stepping Stone to the White House”
15. “The Story of Balie Peyton”

16. "Success Begins at Fifty"
17. "Sucker for Royalty"
18. "Sunday School Securities"
19. "The Super Sellers"
20. "Technology—Can We Curb It?"
21. "Teenicide on the Highway"
22. "Television and Your Way of Life"
23. "Tennesseans and the Nation"
24. "Tennessee Democrats Employ Editor E. G. Eastman, 1846-1849"
25. "Tennessee's Unique Geography"
26. "That Tennessee Weather"
27. "These Frantic Fads of Ours"
28. "They Called Him Sparkplug"
29. "Thomas Jefferson, American"
30. "Those Brothers from Ohio"
31. "Those Terrible Harpes"

Microfilm Reel #4

32. "Three-for-One: Virginia Visit"
33. "Time for Special Recruitment"
34. "To Buy or Not to Buy a Car!"
35. "To Cheat or Not to Cheat"
36. "To Dance or Not to Dance"
37. "Toward a Universal Faith"
38. "The Trouble With Images"
39. "The Truth About Gossip"
40. "TV—Trick or Treat"
41. "Two More Hours"
42. "Uncle Sam"
43. "The Untold Story of Iroquois"
44. "Variety Plus"
45. "Visit to the Nashville Parthenon"
46. "Watch on Washington"
47. "Water—How Long Will It Last?"
48. "Water Show with a Purpose"
49. "We All Need That '2nd R'"
50. "We Are Learning About Hail"
51. "We Live in Deeds—Not years"
52. "We Live in Deeds—Not Years" (*Worker With Youth*)
53. "What Can I do"
54. "What Does Today's Science Mean to You"
55. "What Is Money"

56. "What Is Real Security?"
57. "What Is Television?"
58. "What Is 'The Vocation?'"
59. "What Makes a Hit Record"
60. "What to Do With Songs"; "What Makes a Hit Song?"; "Whither 'Religious' Songs?"
61. "What You Can Do About Runaways"
62. "What's Wrong with Where You Are?"

Box 8

Writings—Jesse C. Burt

1. "Wheeling and Dealing"
2. "When a Man Must Change Jobs"
3. "When Compromise is Called For"
4. "When It Comes to Cigarettes...The Life You Shorten May Be Your Own"
5. "When Spelling Was Spelling"
6. "When the Insurance Man Knocks"
7. "Where Are the Average Teens?"
8. "Where Did That Gideon Bible Come From?"
9. "Where the Winds Do Blow"
10. "Where's Dad?"
11. "The Whirleybird is Watching You"
12. "Whitefoord Russell Cole"
13. "Who Wants You When You're Annoyed?"
14. "Why Do Youngsters Like That Music"
15. "Why Dugger Failed"
16. "Witness to a Gang Murder"
17. "The Wonderful World of the Guitar"
18. "Worship Tradition in Methodism"
19. "Writing Out Retirement"
20. "You Earn Independence"
21. "Young People and Fun"
22. "Young Victim of a Savage God"
23. "Your Friend, Doctor Facts"
24. "Your Friend, Smokey"
25. "Your Help is needed"
26. "Your Imagination is Valuable"
27. "Your Speaking Voice is Important"
28. "Your Ticket to History"
29. "Your Vocational Adventure"
30. "Your Vocational Adventure" (*Classmate*)
31. The Nashville *Tennessean* Magazine
32. Rendig Fels—"Wages, Earnings and Employment N. C. & St. L. Rwy., 1866-1896"

Box 9**Scrapbooks/Memorabilia**

1. Jesse C. Burt, 1920-1950
2. Jesse C. Burt, 1954-1960
3. Jesse C. Burt, 1951-1972
4. Jesse C. Burt, 1973-1974
5. Jesse C. Burt, 1976-1993
6. Jesse C. Burt, 1941-1981